

PRESS RELEASE

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SACATON MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO SECOND DEGREE MURDER AND USE OF FIREARM IN CRIME OF VIOLENCE

PHOENIX, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on January 12, 2004, Angel Flores, D.O.B. 12/2/84, of Sacaton, Arizona, pled guilty to Second Degree Murder and Use of a Firearm in a Crime of Violence, in federal district court in Phoenix, Arizona.

Angel Flores, had been charged with violating Title 18 of the United States Code, Sections 1111 and 924(c). The case involved the defendant and two accomplices kidnaping the victim Michael Lewis DOB 8-31-80 of Sacaton, Arizona, at gunpoint from a crowded home on the night of May 13, 2002. The reason for the kidnapping was that the victim owed one kidnapper approximately \$400 for drug money. After the group kidnapped the victim, the victim was repeatedly shot. The group then took the victim to the desert to bury him. The victim was still alive when he was instructed to climb into his own grave. At the burial sight, the victim was shot again and buried. Although Flores was not the shooter, his stipulated guilty plea requires him to spend 18 years, 3 months in prison. Sentencing is set before Judge Strand on March 22, 2004 at 11:30 a.m..

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The investigation in this case was conducted by Gila River Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigations.

The prosecution is being handled by Sharon K. Sexton, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-04-0020-PHX-RGS

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